



First to Fire Newsletter



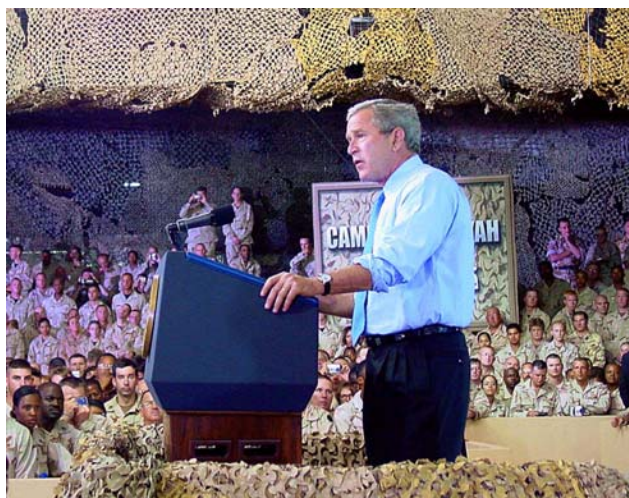
National Policy on Ballistic Missile Defense Fact Sheet

On May 20, President Bush issued a National Policy on Ballistic Missile Defense Fact Sheet that describes his approach to deploying missile defenses and encourages America's allies to join in the effort. In posting it to its website, the White House described the "fact sheet" as a new missile defense directive. "Restructuring our defense and deterrence capabilities to correspond to emerging threats remains one of the Administration's highest priorities, and the deployment of missile defenses is an essential component of this broader effort," the directive states. The fact sheet is online at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/05/20030520-14.html>.

Sentinel Enhanced Target Range and Classification (ETRAC) Radar

The Sentinel Enhanced Target Range and Classification (ETRAC) Radar will improve Sentinel's capability to detect small radar cross section targets like cruise missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles to enable identification of targets beyond visual range. The Limited User Test (LUT) will be conducted by the Operational Test Command (OTC), Air Defense Artillery Test Directorate (ADATD), Fort Bliss Texas, in 1-2QFY04. The LUT will be completed within the boundaries of the Fort Bliss and Oro Grande Test Range. The test environment will be a scenario-generated three-dimensional battlefield using a Southwest Asia threat scenario. First unit equipped will be 4-5 ADA in Feb 05. Current funding only provides for the upgrade of 114 of 145 Sentinel Radars to the ETRAC configuration. The funds to upgrade the remaining 31 radars remain an unfunded requirement.

The AN/MPQ-64 Sentinel ETRAC Radar consists of a HMMWV, advanced three-dimensional X-band phased-array radar integrated on a high mobility trailer, an Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Interrogator, and a Forward Area Air Defense (FAAD) Sensor Command & Control Node. ETRAC will provide sensor coverage to maneuver forces and critical assets to detect cruise mis-



The National Policy on Ballistic Missile Defense Fact Sheet redefines President George Bush's approach to deploying missile defenses.

siles, unmanned aerial vehicles, rotary and fixed wing threats by alerting and cueing short-range air defense weapons such as the Avenger, Bradley Linebacker, Manportable Air Defense System (MANPADS) teams and other government agency assets.

The Sentinel ETRAC radar is a critical element in future SLAMRAAM operations. The ETRAC Radar provides 360-degree azimuth coverage and has an instrumented range of 40km. It is capable of operating day or night, in adverse weather conditions, in battlefield environments of dust, smoke, aerosols, and enemy electronic countermeasures. It is deployable by C130, CH-47, rail, and sea.

THAAD System Gathers Momentum

A Government Accounting Office (GAO) program status report released May 15 assessed the Theater High-Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system program as mature enough to move forward. Based on GAO's assessment, the THAAD project office is accelerating some risk reduction activities in response to prior program setbacks. The system now has before it an aggressive intercept test program slated to begin in FY-04.

"After facing near-termination in the late 1990s, the THAAD program appears now to be gaining momentous support from members of Congress,

who have expressed an interest in pushing forward system development,” reported *Inside the Army* (May 19). “Senior Army leaders in recent weeks have also indicated an interest in accelerating development of THAAD and other TMD [Theater Missile Defense] systems based on threats encountered during recent operations in Iraq. Last month, LTG Joseph Cosumano, commander at SMDC [Space and Missile Defense Command], said he would like to see an acceleration of THAAD and the MEADS System.”

1-204 ADA Mobilizes For Homeland Air Defense Mission

Soldiers of the Mississippi Army National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery, are on the ground and training at Fort Bliss. The battalion’s arrival on May 4-5, under the command and leadership of LTC George “Sonny” Fries, marked the start of an extensive mobilization, new equipment training, mission rehearsal exercise (MRE), validation and deployment process. The unit’s mobilization and training process will culminate with an Avenger and Stinger live-fire exercise and MRE/validation in late June, before the unit moves on to assume and execute their Homeland Air Defense mission.

The 1-204 ADA will relieve the 4th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, in defense of the National Capital Region, marking the first time since September 11, 2001, that an Army National Guard unit has performed this specific mission. When 1-204 ADA assumes its mission in July, it will be under the command and control of the 111th ADA Brigade, New Mexico Army National Guard.

Key Homeland Air Defense Players Subject-Matter Experts

32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, 35th ADA Brigade, 111th ADA Brigade, 4-5 ADA

Trainers and Evaluators/Observer Controllers

1-362 ADA, 6th ADA Brigade, Air and Missile Defense Training Center contractors, 4-5 ADA

ADA System Program Managers

U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command System Managers-Light

Doctrine Developers/Writers

Directorate of Training and Doctrine, U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery School



Soldiers perform maintenance checks on a U.S. Patriot launcher deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Patriot Battery Credited With Saving Coalition Headquarters.

During a May 29 broadcast, CNN credited a Patriot missile battery for the March 27 intercept of an Iraqi al-Samoud missile that “came within seconds of possibly wiping out the headquarters of the coalition ground forces” at Camp Doha, Kuwait. According to CNN, “an analysis of the Iraqi missile’s trajectory by the U.S. Army’s air defense unit showed it would have landed on or near the building housing the Coalition Forces Land Component Command operations center.

A CNN crew embedded at ground forces headquarters witnessed the incident but delayed reporting it until after the cessation of major hostilities for fear of giving away the exact coordinates of the Coalition’s operations center. According to CNN, the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command quickly plotted the location of the Iraqi launch site, and two U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolts destroyed the missile battery. See “Iraqi Missile Targeted Coalition HQ During War” on the CNN website at <http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/meast/05/29/sprj.irq.missile> for details.

Patriot Wins Iraqi Freedom Accolades

Patriot’s effectiveness against Iraqi missiles during Operation Iraqi Freedom has won strong support for Theater Missile Defense where it counts the most. In May Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld and Gen. Peter Pace, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, defended Patriot during testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Defense.

Sen. Thad Cochran:

Q - The Patriot proved itself as a successful system in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Is that your

assessment, and will this capability be funded in the FY04 budget?

A: (SECDEF) - Initial assessment is that PAC3 was effective. We do have to do a better job of de-conflicting targets—as you know we had intercepts with friendly aircraft—the goal is perfection - no friendly intercepts.

Q – The Medium Extended Air Defense System [MEADS] may offer a significant enhancement over the current air defense systems we have fielded. I understand, however, this capability will not be fielded until FY2012. Is that correct, and what is the funding outlook for this program?

A: (GEN Pace) - MEADS is funded at \$280 million in FY04 (RDT&E). I don't know when it will be fielded. I will also point out that in the first analysis, PAC3 was effective, in that no enemy missiles got through its protective umbrella—our troops were protected.

Q: Do you think the budget is sufficiently funded for long-range missile defense weapons?

A: (SECDEF) - LTG [Ronald] Kadish [Director, Missile Defense Agency] has done a terrific job and has a good balance in his budget proposals.

Patriot also received strong support from Coalition leaders, including LTG David D. McKiernan, commander, Third U.S. Army and U.S. Army Forces Central Command and the Coalition Forces Land Component Command. "There were a couple of [friendly fire incidents] that involved Patriot," LTG McKiernan said, "but I would tell you on balance that every surface-to-surface missile that was fired that Patriot engaged was destroyed. Some of them we didn't engage because they landed out in places in the desert where they weren't a threat or they landed out in the North Arabian Gulf. I will tell you that the Patriot has been a big winner over

here in our missile defense plan."

N.M. National Guard Remotely Launches Patriot Missiles

The 2nd Battalion, 200th Air Defense Artillery, successfully conducted the New Mexico Army National Guard's first remote launch of Patriot missiles June 5 at Fort Bliss' McGregor Range.

The Rio Rancho-based unit controlled the test launch of three Patriot missiles from a command center about three away from the launch site.

DOD Will Consider Budgeting For Missile Defense Procurement

The Department of Defense will consider directing the military services to identify money in future budgets for the purchase and operation of the missile defense systems being developed by the Missile Defense Agency. At present, the Missile Defense Agency's acquisition plan makes no provisions for transferring any missile defense systems to the services for operation. The agency plans to develop missile defense capabilities and then transfer these systems to the services via a series of decision points labeled "off ramps," a strategy that depends on future funding to cover each system's production and support costs. The General Accounting Office has warned that by not identifying the cost of buying and operating the missile defense systems, the Defense Department risks having to reduce or eliminate funding for other programs.

"We believe that unplanned operation and maintenance costs could be a particular problem for DOD because its budget for these expenses is already stressed by the rising cost to operate and maintain many aging weapon systems," GAO said in a recent report. "Also, when DOD is at the point of deciding whether to transfer elements of the missile defense system to a military service for production and operation, DOD could find that it does not have the funds available for missile defense without reducing or eliminating funding for other important weapon systems."

Statement of Administration Policy Regarding Management of Theater Air and Missile Defense Programs

On May 22, the Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), issued a policy statement regarding management of Theater Air and Missile Defense programs to

the House Armed Service Committee in response to H.R. 1588 - National Defense Authorization Act. Among the statements included in the policy:

"The administration appreciates the Committee's support for the deployment of near-term ballistic missile defenses to protect the homeland, allies, and deployed forces. In examining the management of the PAC-3 [Patriot Advanced Capabilities-3] and MEADS [Medium Extended Air Defense System] program, DoD determined that these programs would be managed best by the Army. Splitting them between the Army and MDA [Missile Defense Agency] would duplicate effort, add costs, and impede program progress, particularly development of the air defense mission. . . "

The OMB policy statement, in effect, counters arguments that management of the PAC-3 and MEADS programs should be allocated to the MDA or split between the Army and MDA.

Senate Wants Review of Test Program

The Senate on May 23 passed an amendment to its version of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2004 that reinstates some of the internal review requirements for missile defense testing eliminated by the Pentagon more than a year ago to speed initial operational fielding of the homeland missile defense system. The amendment requires the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) to establish measurable performance criteria for missile defense systems and create operational test plans that estimate when performance criteria will be met. The amendment would also require the Pentagon Operational Test and Evaluation director to conduct annual progress assessments. The bill goes to a House-Senate conference committee, where the restoration of internal review requirements will be further debated.

ADAM Cell Completes Certification

The Army's new Stryker Brigade Combat Team and the new Air Defense Airspace Management (ADAM) Cell completed certification on May 28 at the Joint Readiness Training, Fort Polk, La., during Exercise Arrowhead Lightning II. The Army Airspace Command and Control (A2C2) showed dramatic improvement over its highly successful performance during Exercise Arrowhead Lightning I at the National Training Center, according to CPT Scott Mace, Officer in charge of the ADAM Cell.

"We are preparing for future deployment possibilities as the current world situation develops,"



The ADAM Cell is part of the Stryker Brigade Combat Team's main tactical operations center.

said Mace. "We are currently updating our SOPs, reconfiguring our equipment and fixing all the problems we found to allow us a smooth transition into an operational-ready state.

"Overall, the ADAM cell is not completely ready for deployment, but will be in the next 30 to 60 days," he continued. "We will complete the recovery from our busy schedule and continue to prepare for our pending deployment. NTC and JRTC were truly a learning experiences for all members of the ADAM Cell, and it is good to have completed the tasks for certification.

"As we move forward into what the Army of the future holds for us," he added, "we will use the lessons learned from the rotations to provide the best picture possible of the air threat and freedom of movement for our aircraft through our airspace."

ADA Yearbook 2003

ADA Yearbook 2002 is now online. You can find a link to the yearbook on the front page of ADA Magazine Online at <http://147.71.210.21/adamag>. This year's yearbook was delayed to incorporate articles on the participation of ADA units in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Task Force Cobra, which defended Israel from possible Iraqi Scud missile attacks as Coalition forces toppled Saddam Hussein's regime. The yearbook also contains articles on Operation Clear Skies, the air defense of the National Capital Region, the Stryker Brigade Combat Team's Air Defense Airspace Management Cell, and an overview of progress made toward global integrated missile defense.

The First to Fire Newsletter is published by the U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery School, Fort Bliss, Texas.

